



## 18. CULTURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION

*“I conceive that the land belongs to a vast family of which many are dead, few are living, and countless numbers are still unborn.”<sup>24</sup>*

### 18-1 Objectives

#### Stewardship

- ▶ Protect cultural and historic resources at Fort Wainwright

#### Compliance

- ▶ Ensure Fort Wainwright’s natural resources program is consistent with the protection of cultural and historic resources
- ▶ Implement this INRMP within the framework of Army policies and regulations

#### Integration

- ▶ Coordinate implementation of natural resources management with the Fort Wainwright cultural resources program

### 18-2 Cultural Resources Management

This Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan does not attempt to serve as the cultural resources management plan. The cultural resources management plan is being developed under a separate cover.

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<sup>24</sup> A Nigerian chieftain

The purpose of covering cultural resources in this plan is to ensure there is integration between cultural and natural resources management. Therefore, the cultural resources management plan (Section 18-2a), cultural resources compliance (Section 18-2b), and cultural resource surveys (Section 12-2h) are included.

### 18-2a Cultural Resources Management Plan

**Project Description.** Write, update and implement a Cultural Resources Management Plan and Historic Preservation Plan for Fort Wainwright.

**Project Justification.** The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and AR 200-4 require an Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan.

**Project Prescription.** This project has been contracted to the Alaska SHPO for completion. The draft was completed in 1998 and is expected to be finalized in 1999.

### 18-2b Compliance

**Project Description.** Comply with pertinent cultural resources protection laws and regulations while implementing this INRMP.

**Project Justification.** Cultural resources protection programs at Fort Wainwright must be provided in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 U.S.C. Section 470, as amended), Archeological Resources Protection Act (16 U.S.C. Section 470aa-47011), American Indian Religious Freedom Act (42 U.S.C.), Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) (25 U.S.C. Section 3001 *et seq.*), DOD Directive 4710.1 (*Archeological and Historic Resources Management*, 1984), and AR 200-4 (*Cultural Resources Management*). BLM also has responsibility for cultural resources compliance on withdrawn lands on Fort Wainwright.

**Project Prescription.** The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) is the primary regulator for cultural resources in Alaska. SHPO will review this INRMP and provide guidance as it is implemented.

The *YTA Resource Management Plan* (BLM and U.S. Army, 1994) requires that the general program established by the *Historic Preservation Plan* for U.S. Army lands in Alaska (Bacon et al., 1986) be used to guide cultural resources management on YTA. This plan also requires that BLM and the Army, in consultation with SHPO, develop a Cultural Resources Management Plan. This will be accomplished within the next five years (see Section 18-2a).

It has been determined that all Army installations in Alaska are in compliance with NAGPRA. Therefore, Fort Wainwright will not be addressed in the U.S. Army Environmental Center's Army-wide NAGPRA compliance program<sup>25</sup>.

It is the intent of USARAK to fully comply with laws and regulations regarding cultural resources management on Fort Wainwright. This INRMP will be implemented within these requirements.

## 18-3 Natural Resources Management Implications

Natural resources projects sometimes are overlooked as potential causes of adverse impacts to archeological sites. USARAK will address cultural resources program requirements, as well as meet goals of natural resources programs. Natural and cultural resources managers at Fort Wainwright will work closely with one another during development of natural resources projects. Through this partnership, Fort Wainwright will provide both natural and cultural resources for future generations to enjoy.

Activities such as vegetation clearing, timber removal, firebreak construction, and training land rehabilitation are potentially damaging to cultural resources. AR 200-4 and the laws upon which it is predicated require that such undertakings be accomplished in a manner consistent with protection of cultural resources.

Natural resources projects with ground-disturbing activities will be processed through the Fort Wainwright cultural resources manager to prevent activities from impacting cultural resources. Furthermore,

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<sup>25</sup> USAEC Memorandum, 19 Oct 95, NAGPRA Compliance for U.S. Army Alaska.

the cultural resources manager will be consulted during long-range policy planning, such as this INRMP.

Some land management undertakings will have no effect on historic properties at Fort Wainwright. However, to meet this list of exclusions, projects must be evaluated by a professional who meets applicable standards in 36 CFR § 61, Appendix A. Excluded projects are listed below.

- ▶ Maintenance work on existing features, such as roads, fire lanes, mowed areas, active disposal areas, and manmade ditches, waterways, and ponds, when no new ground disturbance is proposed.
- ▶ Outdoor recreational programs including hunting, fishing, and nonconsumptive uses in accordance with Fort Wainwright and Army regulations.
- ▶ The following natural resources management activities: timber harvests, tree plantings, planting and maintenance of wildlife food and shrub

plots in previously disturbed areas, prescribed burning of rangeland, and improvement of existing stream crossings.

- ▶ Planting, cultivating, and harvesting of existing crops not exceeding the depth of existing activities.
- ▶ Removal and replacement in kind of plant materials when they pose an imminent hazard to people or structures.
- ▶ Ordnance disposal in accordance with prescribed Fort Wainwright, Army, and Department of Defense regulations.

Determination of effect and consultation guidelines provided in implementing regulations for the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR 800) will be followed during ERD review of projects. Any project assessed as having an effect on a cultural resource site at Fort Wainwright will be coordinated with Alaska SHPO. For lands in the Yukon Training Area, BLM will also be consulted.

